

Hawaiian Gazette.

VOL. XXXVII, No. 7.

HONOLULU, H. I., FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1902—SEMI-WEEKLY.

WHOLE No. 2353.

HAWAII'S AFFAIRS OBSERVED What is Going on at the National Capital.

(Special to the Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 11.—Cuban sugar duties have been of absorbing attention here this week from the Hawaiian standpoint. A feeling of considerable security that probably nothing would be done, especially as no stable government of their own was in immediate prospect for the Cubans, was followed by a feeling of some anxiety, as soon as Chairman Payne, of the Ways and Means Committee, decided to give a Cuban delegation hearings on the subject.

That stirred the beet sugar people to much activity. The Michigan delegation in the House, composed of twelve Republicans, immediately caucused, Michigan being the second State in the Union in the production of beet sugar. They passed resolutions declaring that we, the Michigan members of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, unitedly use our best endeavors to sustain the beet sugar industry in Michigan and throughout the United States, and that we will resist any attempt, calculated to injure this industry.

The California delegation, consisting of seven Republicans, held a caucus the same day and passed oral resolutions of a similar character. One of their members, Mr. Metcalf, is a member of the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Robertson, of Louisiana, a Democrat, and necessarily a man in favor of the sugar interests, is also a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

It is the influence of President Roosevelt that has been working mischief. Chairman Payne of the Ways and Means Committee, comes from a section where there are large beet sugar interests, but the President has been gradually pulling him over to the other side on the plea that something must be done for Cuba. A belief has prevailed in some quarters that Mr. Dalzell of Pennsylvania, an influential member of the Ways and Means Committee, and next to Mr. Payne in rank, is hostile to any legislation reducing Cuban tariff duties. That is said to be incorrect. But the long and the short of it is that no accurate line on what the committee is likely to do can be had at this time further than this: There will be no radical action by the Ways and Means members. A twenty-five per cent reduction of tariff duties on goods coming from Cuba, providing a similar reduction is made on goods going from this country to Cuba, will probably be recommended in a bill to be reported after the Cuban hearings. These have been set for Jan. 22. There is a quiet tip going the rounds that the leading men of the Senate and House will settle the controversy by a compromise of that character and that the military government at Havana will be instructed to make the 25 per cent cut on our imports into the island immediately after such an act is passed by Congress.

Even the advocates of retaining the present Cuban duties are in many cases admitting that this is what the upshot of it all will likely be. The beet sugar men and the cane sugar growers, as far as their sentiments can be gained through representatives, think that will be a desirable culmination. The President's determination to secure some concessions for Cuba and a sentiment throughout the country that something ought to be done for that island are considerations that will weigh much towards action. Then, if nothing is done by Congress this winter to alleviate the situation in Cuba, the sugar people here fear less speedy annexation may be the outcome.

The beet sugar people are descending on Washington in force and there is every evidence that a vigorous battle will be waged in the next three or four weeks. Michigan sent a delegation almost immediately after the decision of the Ways and Means Committee to grant hearings. This delegation arrived last evening and put up at the Arlington hotel. The members thereof are ready to protest in season and out of season against any reduction of the tariff on sugar. Furthermore, the Michigan members of the House have been circulating a petition on the Republican side, seeking signers and pledges to vote against any tariff reduction. The fact is that, should a bill be reported to the House, much would depend upon the attitude of the Democrats, who, under the peculiar circumstances that have arisen, will hold the balance of power. Most of the Democrats come from Southern States, which are not interested in any extent in beet sugar. It might seem at first blush as though the Southerners would join with the Louisianians, but it must be remembered that the Louisiana Democrats have in years gone by voted with the Republicans on all protection questions, for which the Democrats of the House are very wroth with them. Accord-

KING EDWARD VII OPENS PARLIAMENT WHILE PEERS CHEER FOR THE ARMY

House of Lords Applauds the Speech.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—King Edward opened Parliament today with all ceremonial, bringing up customs of by-gone days. The procession to the House of Lords was of the same character as that witnessed on the occasion of the opening of the first Parliament of King Edward's reign, while within the upper house were seen the same state pageantry, the same historic dresses and the same revival of ancient forms.

After robing, King Edward and Queen Alexandra entered the House of Peers and occupied their thrones, beneath a canopy, with the Prince and Princess of Wales on either side of them. The other members of the Royal family were seated on chairs at the foot of the steps leading to the throne. The gentleman usher of the black rod, General Sir Michael Biddulph, having summoned the Speaker and the members of the House of Commons, His Majesty read the speech from the throne.

The speech opened with a reference to the tour of the Prince and Princess of Wales. "They were everywhere," said the King, "received with demonstrations of the liveliest affection, and I am convinced their presence served to rivet more closely the bonds of mutual regard and loyalty by which the vigor of the empire is maintained."

Referring to Great Britain's relations with foreign countries, the King said: "My relations with the other powers continue to be most friendly." Contrary to expectations, the King's reference to the war was just as indefinite as the statements made on the subject in the last half dozen messages from the throne.

"I regret," said His Majesty, "that the war in South Africa is not yet concluded, though the course of the operations has been favorable to our arms, the area of war largely reduced and industries are being resumed in my new colonies. In spite of the tedious character of the campaign, my soldiers throughout have displayed a cheerfulness in the endurance of the hardships incident to guerilla warfare and a humanity, even to their own detriment, in their treatment of the enemy, which are deserving of the highest praise. The necessity for relieving those of my troops who have most felt the strain of war, has afforded me the opportunity of again availing myself of the loyal and patriotic offers of my colonies, and further contingents will shortly reach South Africa from the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand."

In regard to the sugar conference, the speech says: "I trust its decision may lead to the abandonment of the system by which the sugar producing colonies and home manufacturers of sugar have been unfairly weighted in the prosecution of this important industry." Then came the following clause:

"I have concluded with the President of the United States a treaty, the provisions of which will facilitate the construction of an inter-oceanic canal under guarantees that its neutrality will be maintained, and that it will be open to the commerce and shipping of all nations."

Next followed references to the Anglo-Brazilian treaty, to the referring of the British Guiana-Brazil boundary questions to the arbitration of the King of Italy, to the necessity for the continuance of famine relief measures in India and to the death of the Amir, whose son, Habib Ullah, has expressed an earnest desire to maintain the friendly relations of Afghanistan with my Indian Empire.

After announcing that the estimates "have been framed as economically as due regard for their efficiency renders possible in the special circumstances of the present exigency," the speech concluded with mentioning proposed legislation, of solely domestic interest, with the exception of a bill to facilitate the sale and purchase of land in Ireland.

Their majesties then retired amid a fanfare of trumpets and attended by the same royal ceremony as accompanied their entry into the house. The crowds which lined the route from Buckingham Palace to Westminster to view the procession were not nearly so large as on the occasion of the last opening of Parliament. Guardsmen assisted by hundreds of police kept the spectators back, but they had little to do. Only a few attempts at decoration were visible.

For once royalty was late, and when the King and queen drove out from the courtyard in front of Buckingham Palace they were twenty minutes behind time, and King Edward was still struggling with an unruly glove. Their majesties were greeted enthusiastically. As they sat in the great state coach, whose gilded pinnacle brushed the boughs of the trees in the green park, King Edward and Queen Alexandra looked for all the world like a flattered painting of Henry VIII and one of his better looking spouses. They bowed somewhat wildly from their huge gold and glass frame, which shook and reeled on its ancient springs like a ship in a storm. The king and queen both looked extraordinarily well, but her majesty appeared to be in specially good health. What with the two central figures so easily seen and so gorgeously clad, and the brilliant escort of Life Guards, whose



KING EDWARD VII.

hands kept constantly playing, the public were rewarded for their long, cold wait by a spectacle of considerable interest, in so far as unrestrained public enthusiasm was concerned; but it was nothing to what occurred earlier in the day, when the Guards reinforcements left their barracks en route to South Africa. The Guardsmen tramped through the dark streets of the metropolis at 6 o'clock in the morning, accompanied by an uproarious mob of civilian friends, singing songs to the accompaniment of the band. The songs and music, however, did not drown the crying of women, who clung to the necks and arms of almost every man of the contingent.

On alighting at the royal entrance of the Houses of Parliament, beneath the Victoria tower, King Edward and Queen Alexandra were met by the high officers of state and were conducted to the robing rooms. Having assumed their gorgeous robes, the procession was formed and preceded by the Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council, bearing the imperial crown and the herald and pursuivants, they entered the House of Peers amid a fanfare of trumpets.

The scene in the gilded chamber was very brilliant. State officers, ambassadors and ministers in handsome uniforms and peers and peeresses in vari-colored robes, filled every nook.

The king, beneath his robes, wore a

field marshal's uniform. The queen's dress was of black velvet, surmounted by a robe trimmed with ermine. The peeresses all wore ostrich feathers in their hair, and were richly clad in evening robes of the most varied colors, white satin, however, predominating, the display of jewels being unusually dazzling.

The only departure from the extremely decorous character of the proceedings occurred when the king referred to the humanity of the British troops in South Africa. This led to an unprecedented scene in the House of Lords. Peers and peeresses and high officers of state broke out into a prolonged cheer, which was repeated again and again, to the evident satisfaction of his majesty, but to the apparent dismay of the officials of the House, whose signalled deprecations were ineffectual to stop the outburst of enthusiasm.

There was only a meager attendance of members when the House of Commons met this afternoon to commence the work of the session. Irish affairs cropped up almost immediately, Earl Percy, conservative (oldest son of the Duke of Northumberland, and member for the South Division of Kensington), moving a resolution to the effect that the election from Galway of Colonel Arthur Lynch (who was commonly and notoriously reported to have aided the king's enemies), was an insult to the House, and a committee should be appointed to consider the course to pursue. The Speaker, William Court Gully, declined to accept the motion until notice of it was given in the usual way.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, has given out a definite assurance that there will be no alteration of the coal tax in the forthcoming budget.

Mr. MacNeal, Irish nationalist (member for South Donegal), created the first scene of the session by deploring the fact that the nationalist members had "been immured in dungeons at the behest of Mr. Wyncham, the Chief Secretary for Ireland." He moved the appointment of a committee to investigate the matter. When the Speaker declined to accept the motion, Mr. MacNeal questioned his ruling, and was called to order.

SPECIAL AMBASSADOR.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Whitelaw Reid has been appointed special ambassador to represent the United States government at the coronation. He will be attended by General James Wilson, representing the army, and Captain Clarke, former commander of the battleship Oregon, representing the navy. The appointment of Mr. Reid gives general satisfaction in London.

first of the outside jobbers to feel the cut, and so keenly has it injured the southern dealers that they talk of retaliatory measures in order to hold the custom of several large retail dealers, who have purchased supplies in San Francisco, saving 20 cents per 100 pounds upon the present ruling prices in Los Angeles, and thus force out the intruding sellers. In fact, they are so angry at present conditions that they have in some instances actually threatened the retailers. In speaking of the matter, a leading southern jobber said: "Whether we will allow ourselves to engage in a similar rate-cutting affair, or whether we will let the San Francisco jobbers fight it out and exhaust their powers is the point under consideration. We do not like to lose our customers and see sugar from outside of our territory come in here, and again we do not like to do business for nothing. In any event, the Los Angeles retailers that are taking advantage of the present opportunity to throw us down when a slight opportunity is presented may later find that sugar will not be so cheap to them when the atmosphere is cleared."

While the majority of the local jobbers are reticent in speaking of the present unsettled state existing between them, several frankly admit that it is

WILL BE MADE UP OF CLUBS The Home Rulers to Organize Closely.

WITH a vote which was decisive in its size and vociferous in its strength of lung, the plan of the Central Committee of the Home Rulers for the perfection of a party organization was adopted at the meeting last evening. It was the plan proposed several weeks ago and fought with vigor by the conservatives, but its adoption means that here will be a modern plan followed in the pursuing of the aims of the party.

The evening was spent in the consideration of the methods for the formation of government primary or precinct clubs throughout the Territory. As one speaker put it, there was to be formed a system of clubs, which would be close to the people, and the effect would be to have the conventions of the party made up of men who knew the feelings of their constituents, and the committees of voters who had been constantly in touch with the people who were needed to cast the ballots.

The discussions came up on the supplemental report, which carried with it not only the formation of the precinct clubs, but as well a system of rules for their procedure. The rules, while rather long, were those which are adopted in the majority of organizations with similar purposes. The system of precinct clubs of the Republican party had been copied at length by the Home Rulers, and the result of the labors of the committee was the presentation of a comprehensive system. From the first there was a fight made by the conservatives. They did not want the local clubs given power to name delegates to the nominating conventions. There was a feeling that the executive committee should keep in its hands the power of dictation to the voters, but this was beaten by the younger element of the party.

As finally passed the plans of the Home Rulers provide for a system of clubs, one in each voting precinct of the islands, made up of voters who proclaim their fealty to the party, this concession being made to the conservatives, who thought there was being too much taken for granted in the policies of some of the recent additions to the party. These clubs to be governed by the usual officers, and their duties shall be to elect the delegates to all nominating conventions and as well members of the committee which shall have the supreme government of the party affairs, known here as the executive committee. There were several amendments made to the rules as they were passed after a seriatim reading. These, however, were principally of a verbal nature, and do not, in the main, change the ordinary distribution of the power of the clubs or their officers.

Only one material change was made, and this was taken as a partial victory for the conservatives or older members of the party. According to this amendment to the rules of order, there may be made an amendment to the rules for the government of the party clubs, by a majority vote of the membership of each club. This change was made for the purpose of permitting the several precinct clubs, where it is difficult to secure a full attendance, to make rules for government in these premises.

According to the plan as finally adopted the formation of these clubs about the Territory is to be in the control of Prince Cupid and Judge Kaula. Those members of the committee are believed to be ready to undertake a journey through the group, for the purpose of securing the adherence of the voters to the party, and to interest them in the formation of the clubs, and thus keep alive the organization.

The rules of order were finally ordered printed, and when this is done the leaders in the various districts will have copies sent to them, for the purpose of getting the work under way before the trip of the organizers for the party shall have been undertaken.

HAWAII AND GUAM.

Estimates Made for Works of Military Defence.

WASHINGTON, January 13.—Secretary Root has sent to Congress estimates of \$297,000 for the defenses of the island of Guam and \$526,000 for the defenses of Hawaii. The defenses of Guam are to include a seacoast battery, \$142,000; defensive sites, \$45,000; and torpedo batteries, mines, etc., \$125,000. The defenses of Hawaii are to include those about Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. General Gillespie, chief of engineers, states in the estimates that these defenses are urgently needed to protect the newly acquired territory of the United States, and to prevent the interruption of cable communication, these islands being in the line of the projected cable.

The French minister of marine has appointed a commission to inquire into the reports of Portland, Ore., crimps.

SUGAR QUOTATIONS SHOW A DECIDED FALL IN PRICES

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—Sugar—Raw, nominal, weak. Fair Refining, 27-8c. Centrifugal, 96 test, 33-8c. Molasses Sugar, 25-8c. Refined was dull.

SUGAR PRICES REDUCED.

NEW YORK, January 14.—All grades of refined sugar were reduced today by the American Sugar Refining Company and the independent refiners. Grades Nos. 6 to 11, inclusive, were cut five points, and the rest of the list ten points.

ENGLAND MAY START SUGAR WAR.

LONDON, January 15.—The Daily Mail says that at the Cabinet council held Monday it was determined that steps should be taken to prevent the ruin of the West Indies. "We understand this to mean," says the Daily Mail, "that the British delegates will

be able to announce at the Brussels conference that unless sugar bounties are abolished Great Britain will prepare to impose a countervailing duty on bounty-produced sugar."

SUGAR AT COST.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—The merry war which was inaugurated among the wholesale jobbing grocers of the city with the opening of the new year's business, by offering the various varieties of sugar at actual cost price has developed into a bitter struggle to control trade, and its effects are being felt in several of the coast markets.

Los Angeles merchants have been the

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